

NEWS

The Tribal Newsletter
is published free monthly.

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LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues>

Vol. 16, No. 3 — March 2007

<> CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS <>

March

- 2 Educational Outreach for Air Quality Professionals**, Albuquerque, NM. For information: Darrel Harmon, 202-564-7416
- 10-11 Celilo Legacy Project**, Celilo Village, OR. <http://www.celilowyam.org/> (See below)
- 13 & 14 Oregon Fish Consumption Rate Project**, Portland on 3/13, Coos Bay on 3/14 (See page 2)
- 19-22 Tribal Indoor Air Training**, San Carlos, AZ. For information: Louise Hill 415-947-4192, hill.louise@epa.gov
- 20-22 Improve and Protect Air Quality in Indian Country**, Seattle, WA (See page 2)
- 21-22 Indian Energy in an Uncertain Climate**, Denver, CO. For information: Mervyn Tano, 303-733-0481, mervtano@iirm.org
- 26-27 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in Indian Country**, Denver, CO. For information: Mervyn Tano, mervtano@iirm.org

April

- 3-5 Pacific Salmon Conference**, Portland, OR. For information: Erick Dickey, 541-737-2715 or <http://oregonstate.edu/conferences/resilience>
- 17-20 Tribal Basic Inspector Training**, Portland, OR. (See page 2)
- 26-28 24th Annual Gathering of Nations Powwow**, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. For information: <http://www.gatheringofnations.com/powwow/index.htm>

May

- 18-22 Indigenous Waters Network River Rally**, Stevenson, WA (See page 5)

June

- 3-6 Western State Wetlands Workshop**, Park City, UT (See February newsletter for details)
- 11-15 Sharing Indigenous Wisdom: An International Dialogue on Sustainable Development**, Green Bay, WI. For information: <http://www.sharingindigenouswisdom.org/>

<> EVENT <>

Celilo Legacy Project

Fifty years ago the gates of the Dalles Dam closed and the force of the Columbia River slowed until Celilo Falls, the location of a magnificent and important tribal salmon fishery, was inundated with water. In observation of this significant change to the Columbia River Treaty tribes' economy and culture, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) is hosting commemoration events **March 10 and 11**.

Festivities will include story telling and curriculum development for educators, classical music concerts, a Continuing Legal Education class on the topic of tribal fishing rights, a conference on Celilo stories, and a Celilo Falls Inundation Memorial. Organized by CRITFC, these events are intended to be inspirational and educational, with something for everyone.

CRITFC's Celilo Legacy project is an outreach effort, using the 50th



anniversary of Celilo Falls to educate people on the historical importance of Celilo Falls and to gather oral histories from those who fished there, and to discuss the effects on the tribes and salmon today. The open, region-wide dialogue can help us all work together for a different future. For more information: <http://www.celilowyam.org/>

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Oregon Fish Consumption Rate Project

T When developing water quality standards, a fish consumption rate is used in the calculation of the human health water quality criteria. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has committed to reviewing its fish consumption rate and is partnering with EPA and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation to host a series of facilitated public workshops that will explore options for revising the fish consumption rate.

R Goals for the workshops are to: provide a forum for participants to identify critical issues, discuss implementation challenges and propose alternative actions; develop recommendations and supporting documentation to present the Environmental Quality Commission with 1) a range of options to increase the fish consumption rate and 2) options for pollution-control strategies that can help reduce the risks associated with eating contaminated fish and decrease the toxics levels in fish.

A The first two workshops will be held in **Portland on March 13 and Coos Bay on March 14**. For more information: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/standards/toxics.htm>

Tribal Basic Inspector Training

I From April 17 to 20, the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) will present a course for tribal staff involved in civil inspection, compliance, and reporting. The course will focus on general issues involved in developing and executing a successful tribal environmental compliance and enforcement program. The course format will include lecture, small group activities, and a mock inspection.



N Please be aware that this course, being held in Portland, is limited to tribes in the lower 48. Alaskan Native Villages are not eligible for the training at this time. **Applications are due March 19, 2007**. For more information: <http://www.nau.edu/itep> or contact John Mead at 928-523-1055.

Childhood Lead-Poisoning Outreach

G EPA is soliciting grant proposals from eligible entities to reduce the incidence of childhood lead poisoning in low-income communities with older housing. This grant will support the partnership of national organizations with community-based organizations and local governments to improve the environmental health of a community through lead-poisoning prevention.

F Potential activities include outreach, training, ordinance development, and other means to reduce childhood lead poisoning. Activities should be part of a larger strategy or plan, supported by a partnership or network addressing the needs of the community. (Activities will not include lead abatement.) The **deadline for applications is April 02, 2007**. For information, contact: Barbara Ross at 206-553-1985 or ross.barbara@epa.gov.

Air Quality in Indian Country

EPA, in coordination with the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP), the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC), and the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA), will hold a training workshop for tribal environmental professionals, "Improve and Protect Air Quality in Indian Country," **March 20-22** in Seattle, Washington.

The workshop will focus on improving air quality by giving participants the skill to identify off-reservation sources with GIS and by covering federal, state and local programs that affect tribal air quality. It will also provide tools to build effective relationships with state and local agencies to improve air quality in Indian country.

The original application deadline for this training was Feb 15, but **applications will continue to be accepted from Region 10 tribes until the class is filled**. Travel and lodging resources are available to qualified applicants.

For information, visit: <http://projects.pechan.com/epa/tribalWorkshops/index.cfm> or call Julie McClintock at 919-541-5339.

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Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign

EPA has posted the FY 2007 Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign (SC3) Grant Solicitation and is actively seeking initial proposals from interested applicants. The objective of this grant is to support an innovative project that advances the goals of SC3 by using lessons learned from other programs or demonstration projects to establish an SC3 “infrastructure” in a specific community that assists K-12 schools with their chemical management.

Proposed projects may involve a demonstration, training, outreach and/or education project that uses the lessons learned from other chemical-management programs to develop a new or expand an existing program that provides and improves chemical management in the K-12 schools of a community. Eligibility and evaluation criteria may be found in the grant solicitation. **The deadline for submitting initial proposals is March 14, 2007.**

For information: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm> or contact Kristina Meson at 703-308-8488 or meson.kristina@epa.gov.

Environmental Regulatory Enhancement

This program supports the strengthening of tribal governments or organizations through capacity building to identify, plan, develop, and implement environmental programs in a manner consistent with tribal culture for native communities. About \$1.5 million is available to fund 20 to 30 grants of up to \$250,000. **Applications are due March 14, 2007.** For information: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/pdf/HHS-2007-ACF-ANA-NR-0008.pdf> or contact Tim Chappelle at 202-401-2344 or tichappelle@acf.hhs.gov.

P2 Grants

The Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants program supports state and tribal technical assistance programs that help businesses and industries identify better environmental strategies and solutions for reducing or eliminating waste at the source. EPA is interested in supporting projects that reflect comprehensive and coordinated P2 planning and implementation efforts within a state or tribe. Grant amounts awarded will depend on the congressional appropriations for this program. **Proposals are due April 2, 2007.** For information: <http://www.epa.gov/p2/pubs/grants/ppis/2007fpp2grant.htm>

Tribal Solid Waste Assistance

The Tribal Solid Waste Interagency Workgroup is part of an effort to coordinate federal solid waste assistance to tribes. National Work group members represent EPA, BIA, HIS and the Departments of Agriculture and Defense.

Eligible entities may apply for funding under one of four categories: proposals to characterize/ assess open dumps; proposals to develop integrated solid waste management plans and tribal codes and regulations; proposals to develop and implement alternative solid waste management activities (including equipment acquisition); and proposals to develop and implement cleanup, closure, and post-closure programs for open dumps in Indian Country.

Keep in mind that any construction proposals will be funded from USDA Rural Utilities Service. Due to their internal policies, USDA/RUS may not provide 100 percent grant funding to

construction proposal finalists. You may need to decide on one of three ways to receive the funds: 100% loan with minimal interest rate; a match (with in-kind going towards the tribe’s portion of match); or a grant and loan combination.

Applications, whether submitted at <http://www.Grants.gov> or by mail, **must be received by EPA on or before March 22nd**. For more information, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/07-03.pdf>



Rural Business Opportunity Grants

These grants promote sustainable development in rural exceptional-needs communities, through support of economic planning, technical assistance for businesses, and training for rural entrepreneurs or development officials. \$1.5 million will likely be available; the average grant is \$50k. For info: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/buspr/rbog.htm>

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WasteWise Communities

EPA has developed a new program called WasteWise Communities. It is designed to support local government efforts in residential solid-waste reduction and related climate change impacts. WasteWise Communities will accept and recognize annual residential waste-reduction data, expanding the scope of WasteWise.



Waste prevention and recycling activities not only help conserve resources, reduce waste, and save money, but they can also help mitigate global climate change. WasteWise Communities will work with municipalities to

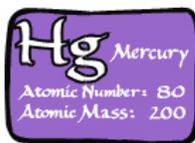
decrease climate footprints by providing tools and resources to communities seeking economically viable solutions to reduce waste and curb greenhouse gas emissions. Local governments interested in participating will be able to register as WasteWise Communities partners. WasteWise will provide partners with tools, including free technical assistance and resources to monitor and evaluate waste-reduction results, also tools to implement or expand residential waste-reduction programs.

To learn more about WasteWise Communities, contact the WasteWise Helpline at 800-EPA-WISE (372-9473) or visit <http://www.epa.gov/wastewise>.

Science and American Indians

The Science and American Indians website provides a wide range of science information and resources. Materials were gathered from tribal traditional knowledge, analytical science, and integrated approaches to science by tribes, EPA, and other federal agencies and tribal organizations. The site also has information on the activities and products of the EPA workgroup that addresses tribally driven science issues. Visit: <http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm>

Mercury Reduction Programs



Interested in mercury reduction? You can check the National Mercury Reduction Programs Database. You can search there to find mercury reduction programs currently taking place nationally.

You can also add information about a program your organization has created. For more information: <http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/programs/index.cfm>

Air Particulate Matter

To determine the average annual concentration of fine particulate matter for a specific city or county, visit the EPA Air Trends website and look for "PM 2.5 Wtd AM" in the tables provided. Visit: <http://epa.gov/airtrends/factbook.html>

Consulting: A Guide to Tribal Consultation

To obtain a free copy of "Consulting with Indian Tribal Governments at Superfund Sites: A Beginner's Booklet," visit: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/partners/oerr/stsi.htm>. If you have questions about this booklet, please contact Nick Rebeck at 703-603-8811 or rebeck.nicholas@epa.gov.

Children's Environmental Website

This website provides information from and links to *America's Children and the Environment*, which includes factors related to the health and well-being of children in the U.S. It shows trends in contaminant levels in air, water, food, and soil, as well as concentrations of contaminants found in the bodies of children and women. It also covers childhood illnesses that may be influenced by environmental contaminants. This information will help guide efforts to minimize harmful environmental impacts on children and to stimulate discussion among policymakers and the public about improving federal data. Visit: <http://www.epa.gov/envirohealth/children>



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Ecological Benefits

What benefits do people actually derive from clean air, water, and land? EPA has taken a major step towards answering this question with the release of its Ecological Benefits Assessment Strategic Plan (EBASP).

EPA has traditionally been able to quantify human health benefits more easily than total ecological benefits when making regulatory decisions. The EBASP will help fill this gap by enabling the Agency to more comprehensively address the full economic value of environmental protection.

The EBASP will be a vital tool for Agency decision-makers, supplementing current practices for identifying and quantifying the

ecological benefits of the Agency's policies and actions. According to Benjamin Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Water, "This plan will boost environmental protection by advancing knowledge of ecosystem benefits. Understanding the value of a clean stream or a healthy coast informs decisions and improves environmental results."

The plan was a collaborative effort among EPA's Offices of Research and Development; Policy, Economics and Innovation; Water; Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances; Air and Radiation; and Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

For more information: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/ee/epa/eed.nsf/webpages/EcologBenefitsPlan.html>

Oregon Out-of-State Students

If you are an out-of-state student who is a member of an Oregon tribe, or a tribe that had traditional and customary boundaries in Oregon, you are eligible for in-state tuition at any of the Oregon University System schools. This ruling acknowledges some California, Idaho, Nevada, and Washington tribes, as well as the Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma. For more information, visit: <http://www.ous.edu> or <http://www.ous.edu/programs/commdiv/files/NAguide2005.pdf>



High-Efficiency Toilets

Toilets that use less than 1.3 gallons per flush are eligible to advertise that they have been approved by a water conservation initiative headed by EPA. When announcing the specification for the newest water-saving toilets, EPA Assistant Administrator for Water, Benjamin Grumbles, said, "By purchasing WaterSense-labeled plumbing fixtures, consumers can help protect the water supply and their wallets."

EPA estimates that high-efficiency toilets could save more than 900 billion gallons of water a year and reduce water bills by about 10 percent annually. EPA says that toilet usage accounts for nearly one-third of all home water use. For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/partners/specs/het.htm>

Annual River Rally

The Indigenous Waters Network (IWN) is a tribally led grassroots effort. The IWN's mission is to ensure that all living things have access to clean and safe waters; to establish and maintain a unified voice for indigenous waters; to connect people through water by sharing traditional knowledge, wisdom, and stories; and to use cultural knowledge and western science to guide appropriate use for the management, protection and sustainability of indigenous waters.

The next IWN gathering will be during the annual River Rally conference, hosted by River Network. The conference will be held at the Skamania Lodge, near Stevenson, WA, **May 18-22**. The gathering will provide native people the opportunity to discuss successes and challenges in protecting the sacred gift of water. For more information: <http://www.rivernetwork.org/rally> or contact Jolene Catron, 307-332-4238 or uia@yahoo.com.

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EVENT TO WATCH FOR

The Squaxin Island Tribe, in South Puget Sound near Shelton, Washington, will host the next Tribal Leaders Summit. The date has not been set but is expected to be in March or April 2008. Plans are just getting under way.

To Report Spills and Accidents

Note these emergency numbers to call in the event of hazardous material spills or accidents.

Alaska	800-478-9300	Washington	800-258-5990
Idaho	800-632-8000	National (EPA)	800-424-8802
Oregon	800-452-0311		

Check out EPA's page of links for Web-savvy kids:

<http://www.epa.gov/indian/kidlinks.htm>



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